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GOVERNOR BABCOCK

With a view to expanding social, economic and cultural opportunities for all Montanans, I signed the executive order creating the Montana Arts Council on April 22, 1965. An expanded arts program, in which our smaller communities as well as our cities will take part, will stimulate the kind of vigorous cultural climate necessary to attract new enterprise and to keep native talent. The 24-member Council, representing diverse interests and geographical areas, carries major responsibility for achieving these objectives, and I urge all Montanans to support the Council's vital work.

SENATOR MANSFIELD

Of all the great men chosen by the states to represent them in National Statuary Hall, only one is an artist—Montana's beloved Charlie Russell, whose genius made the world know the beauty and vitality of frontier Montana. Let us hope that a new arts program, spearheaded by the Montana Arts Council, will enrich life in Montana and bring national recognition to today's Montana for its creative energy and leadership.

SENATOR METCALF

Wise and constructive use of our increasing leisure time demands greater emphasis on the arts. Montana citizens deserve an arts program that will meet the needs of a technological age, and the Montana Arts Council must give leadership and impetus to the development of such a program. I trust that all Montanans who want a better life for themselves and their children will co-operate with the Council.

REPRESENTATIVE BATTIN

Industrial growth of the kind needed in Montana requires adequate cultural opportunities. If we are to share in growth, we must expand our efforts to stimulate the arts. That is one reason I support the Montana Arts Council and its Montana-developed program.

REPRESENTATIVE OLSEN

Montana is truly a Treasure State and among the most precious of her resources are the creative talents of her people. The Montana Arts Council can perform an invaluable service by mobilizing these resources for the benefit of all Montanans.

THE MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL'S ORIGIN is closely bound up with the national upsurge of the arts which found expression in recent federal legislation; and to arrive at any real understanding of the Council, we must first look at it in the broad context of the role of government—local, state, and national—in the arts.

That the arts are a proper concern of national government is implicit in the Preamble to the Constitution, which states that one of the purposes of the people in establishing the Constitution was "to . . . promote the general welfare . . ."

Enlightened governments have always tacitly recognized that "The arts are not for a privileged few but for the many; their place is not on the periphery of society but at its center; they are not just a form of recreation but are of central importance to our well-being and happiness."

What has our government done to discharge this responsibility? Not much, until recently, in the way of direct, official action although our presidents, from John Adams on, have given personal encouragement to the arts and the Congress has given indirect impetus to their growth.

IN 1965 CONGRESS PASSED THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES ACT. This legislation, the culmination of years of growing government awareness of its responsibility to the arts, heralds a new era.

The new legislation gives government support to arts programs while confining its help to precisely limited areas. It scrupulously observes the distinction between extending the helping hand of encouragement and bestowing the death kiss of control. It offers stimulation and challenge, not regulation. In short, it prepares the soil and furnishes the tools of cultivation needed for a real flowering of the arts in America.

°Charles W. Bolen, Chairman, Missoula
°F. H. "Bo" Brown, Jr., Missoula
Mrs. William Cordingly, Great Falls
Robert Q. Crebo, Helena
Earl Dahlstrom, Moore
Mrs. William M. Graham, Great Falls
Sumner Gerard, Billings
°James Haughey, Billings
°Mrs. Blanche Judge, Helena
°Michael Kennedy, Helena
James Logan, Great Falls
James Lucas, Miles City
Mrs. George Lund, Reserve
Wayne Montgomery, Lima
Van Kirke Nelson, M.D., Kalispell
°George Perkins, Billings
Colin Raff, Butte
°Richard Reinholtz, Missoula
°Harold Rose, Bozeman
°Joe Sample, Billings
°John Schile, Missoula
Ben Stein, Livingston
Mrs. Edwin Stickney, Miles City
Alfred Weber, Helena
Luther A. Richman, Executive Director, Missoula

°*Members of Executive Committee*

MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL

The 1965 act provides a one-time flat grant of $25,000 to each state for launching a state arts agency.

Matching money (up to $50,000 to each qualifying state for three years) is available to help each state carry out the arts program it develops.

To enable Montana to participate in this vital program, Governor Tim Babcock, by executive order signed April 22, 1965, created the Montana Arts Council "to promote the arts for the benefit of Montana citizens and to provide a cultural climate favorable for the attraction of new business."

All 24 members of the Council were appointed by the Governor with a view to getting a balanced group that would truly represent all the arts and would give proper weight to all geographic areas and all segments of Montana society, such as business, labor, etc. Spokesmen for both the visual and the performing arts are professionals who earn their livings practicing or teaching in the respective fields they represent on the Council.

For years the Montana Institute of the Arts and other organizations have been active in the pursuit of some of the goals set for the Council, but no one group existed to carry out a comprehensive state program of the breadth required for participation in the federal support program.

THE MONTANA INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS FUNCTIONS are separate and distinct from those of the Council but the common interests of both groups dictate a close working alliance and they complement each other.

In recognition of this plain fact, the Council and M.I.A. have joined forces to conduct the survey of the state's resources.

WHAT HAS THE MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL DONE SO FAR?

- Applied for and received the initial $25,000 grant from the National Endowment to conduct the survey of Montana cultural resources and to develop pilot projects preliminary to establishing Montana's eligibility for the matching funds that will become available.
- Appointed Dr. Luther Richman, former Fine Arts Dean, Executive Director and opened an office in Missoula.
- Laid the groundwork for the projected survey and mapped preliminary plans for pilot projects.

WHAT ARE THE GENERAL PURPOSES OF THE MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL?

- To stimulate, conserve and protect local initiative and efforts (not supplant or interfere with them).
- To develop programs and exhibitions in co-operation with public and private groups –
  to bring outstanding collections and performers to the state and –
  to broaden existing tour programs from inside and outside the state by encouraging communities to sponsor them co-operatively.
- To stimulate wider public participation in the enjoyment and support of the arts.
- To help find sources of funds and to promote the arts and humanities and assist communities in finding funds for cultural endeavors.
- To encourage public interest in conserving and understanding the cultural heritage of the state and its people.
- To strengthen the quality and variety of community art programs and stimulate better arts programs in the schools.

HOW CAN THE COUNCIL DO THESE THINGS?

- ONLY WITH YOUR HELP.

MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
MISSOULA, MONTANA 59801

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